

# **THE FALLS CITY ENGINEERS**

## **A HISTORY OF THE LOUISVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS UNITED STATES ARMY**

**Leland R. Johnson**

“The beautiful river Ohio, bounds Kentucke in its whole length, being a mile and sometimes less in breadth, and is sufficient to carry boats of great burthen. Its general course is south 60 degrees west; and in its course it receives numbers of large and small rivers, which pay tribute to its glory. The only disadvantage this fine river has, is a rapid, one mile and a half long, and one mile and a quarter broad, called the Falls of Ohio. In this place the river runs over a rocky bottom, and the descent is so gradual, that the fall does not probably in the whole exceed twenty feet. In some places we may observe it to fall a few feet. When the stream is low, empty boats only can pass and repass this rapid; their lading must be transported by land; but when high, boats of any burthen may pass in safety. Excepting this place, there is not a finer river in the world for navigation by boats.”

By JOHN FILSON, in  
“The Discovery, Settlement and  
Present State of Kentucke”  
published in 1784